Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

RSR-01 /100 W

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R 242003Z AUG 73 FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3378 INFO USCINCSO USINT ALGIERS

CONFIDENTIAL BUENOS AIRES 6304

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AR, (LOPEZ REGA)

SUBJ: LOPEZ REGA TO ATTEND NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

- 1. PRESS THIS MORNING REPORTS AND PERONIST CONTACTS CONFIRM THAT SOCIAL WELFARE MIN JOSE LOPEZ REGA WILL ATTEND ALGEIERS CONFERENCE ALONG WITH FONMIN VIGNES.
- 2. AT CABINET MEETING YESTERDAY LOPEZ REGA ALSO ASKED FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO RUN FROM DATE OF HIS RETURN FROM ALGIERS UNTIL ELECTIONS ON SEPT 23. PURPOSE TO ENABLE HIM PARTICIPATE IN ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN WITHOUT VIOLATING PRESIDENT LASTIRI'S DIRECTIVE THAT MEMBERS OF GOVERNMENT MUST BE STRICTLY NEUTRAL AND PASSIVE IN ELCTIONS (THOUGH FEW BELIEVE THEY WILL BE).
- 3. COMMENT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF TRAVEL PLANS AND REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE HAS LED TO SPECULATION THAT LPEZ REGA'S STAR IS DESCENDING. AT MOMENT, HOWEVER, EMBASSY CAN SEE NO EVIDENCE TO SUBSTANTIATE SUCH A VIEW. LOPEZ REGA'S POSITION AS SOCIAL WELFARE MIN IS SECONDARY TO HIS REAL POSITION AS PERSONAL ADVISOR TO PERON. HENCE IT IS PROBABLE THAT PERON WOULD INDEED WANT LOPEZ REGA TO LEND A HAND IN THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN. FURTHER PERON CONFIDENTIAL

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IS PERSONALLY INTERESTED IN RELATIONS WITH ARAB COUNTRIES--

WHICH HE VIEWS AS POSSIBLE SOURCES OF CAPITALAND MAY WELL HAVE
ENTRUSTED SOME SPECIAL MISSION TO LOPEZ REGA. NONETHELESS,
EMBASSY WILL BE ON ALERT FOR ANY EVIDENCE IN WEEKS AHEAD THAT
LOPEZ REGA IS ON SKIDS, WHICH COULD BE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT.

LODGE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Subject: LOPEZ REGA TO ATTEND NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

TAGS: PFOR, AR, (REGA, LOPEZ)

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005